

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, and 9-43 are currently pending in the application. Claim 22 is amended, and claims 5-8 and 44-48 are canceled with this response. The allowance of claims 1-21 and 24-43 is noted with appreciation. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings were objected to because subject matter within claims 5-8 was allegedly not shown in the drawings. Claims 5-8 have been cancelled with this response, thereby rendering the above issue moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted, however, that the amendment to cancel claims 5-8 in no way alters the scope of claim 2 upon which such claims previously depended. For example, claim 2 recites that the first actuator comprises a curvilinear actuator. For example, on page 12, lines 2-14 of applicant's specification, it states that the curvilinear may comprise one or more rotary motor segments, and may include, for example, a brushless curvilinear motor that could include a ferrous or non-ferrous core forcer. Since such items were provided solely as examples in the specification, it should be understood that any type of curvilinear actuator is contemplated by the invention including the example provided, and that the term is not limited by the examples listed in the specification. Therefore the cancellation of claims 5-8 should in no way be interpreted as a surrender of claim differentiation for the term curvilinear actuator in claim 2.

II. OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 5-8 and 22-23 were objected to for various informalities. Claims 5-8 have been canceled, and claim 22 has been amended to depend on claim 21, as highlighted in the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.



Serial No. 10/840,186
Page 10


III. CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, the claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, EATNP160US.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: March 29, 2006


Christine Gilroy